PATENT
Serial No: 10/684,518
Docket No: 10517-190

REMARKS

Claims 1–7 and 9-21 are pending in the application. By this amendment, claims 1, 9, 11 and 17 are amended.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3, 8, 11 and 17 under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Tsuzuki (USP 6,176,208), rejects claims 1, 2, 4 and 17 under 35 USC 102(b) over DE 689 02 346, rejects claims 1-3, 5, 9, 10, 12, 17 and 19-21 under 35 USC 102(b) over Hatano (USP 6,237,550), rejects claims 1-3, 6-8, 11, 17 and 18 under 35 USC 102(b) over EP 0 796 981 and rejects claims1-3, 6-8, 11 and 13-18 under 35 USC 102(b) over JP 2001 126922. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 17 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 8 therein, and thus recite the co-fastening member is disposed in a through-hole formed in the assembly so as to fix the assembly to the mounting surface, and wherein the through-hole allows a fluid to be supplied to the assembly. Since the fluid for lubricating and cooling the assembly is supplied via the through-holes, a tube or piping is not needed for supplying the fluid.

None of the applied references disclose that the through-hole allows a fluid to be supplied to the assembly. Accordingly, claims 1 and 17, and all claims dependent therefrom, are not anticipated by these references.

Claim 18 recites that a predetermined opening angle is formed between lengthwise axes of the two assemblies. This feature is shown in FIG. 9 of the application, for example. EP '981 shows that two sets are disposed adjacent to each other, but are in contact with each other so that no angle is formed therebetween. JP '922 discloses two electromagnetic valves (1,1) disposed so that the two axis of the electromagnetic valveshave a predetermined angle, but does not show that an angle is formed between lengthwise axes of the assemblies, as required by claim 18. Accordingly, claim 18 is not anticipated by the applied references.

Claim 19 recites wherein an upper surface side of an upwardly disposed electromagnet of the pair of electromagnets disposed in the vertical positional relationship or an upper surface side of an assembly incorporating the upwardly disposed electromagnet and retainer member means for retaining the upwardly disposed electromagnet is provided with a reservoir portion capable of holding a fluid that flows on an upper surface of the upwardly disposed electromagnet or an upper surface of the assembly during a non-operation state of the armature. In Hatano, the fluid is supplied to the cylinder 29 via the oil passage 31 by a pump or the like, and is discharged into a solenoid-operated valve 1, as the lubricant, via first and second oil discharge ports 32 and 33. When the electromagnetic valve is not in the operation state, i.e., the non-operation state of the armature, the oil is not supplied to the cylinder, and also is discharged via the discharge port 33 because the solenoid-operated valve itself is arranged with a lean as shown in Fig. 1. See col. 6, lines 43-46. Thus, the oil is not held inside the cylinder in a non-operation state of the armature. Therefore, claim 19, and dependent claim 20, are not anticipated.

Claim 21 recites a predetermined clearance provided between the electromagnet and a side wall of the recess portion. The applied references do not disclose or suggest this feature and claim 21 is therefore not anticipated.

For at least the above reasons, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Prompt consideration and allowance are solicited.

The Office is authorized to charge any fees due under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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